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Wilmington Journal.

VOL. 31.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1875.

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The anti-Beecher papers are unearthing new evidences of "Beecher's Seal." A druggist says he sold the great preacher poison, and a man who owns carpets in Tilton's home has told his suspicious tale about the sin.

THE NEXT CROP.

The *Financial Chronicle* of the 12th inst., contains a lengthy article purporting to be a summary of extensive observations of the growing crop, and of a still more extensive correspondence relating thereto. It takes up the mooted questions of fertilizers, acreage and present condition, and we hope honestly attempts to set them all down in exact terms. Let us briefly gather up its principal figures.

The movement of fertilizers through the ports of Charleston, Savannah, Port Royal, Norfolk and Wilmington, aggregated that year 13,524 tons against 34,792 tons in 1874. The largest gains were at Norfolk and Wilmington, but each one of the five ports shows an increase. Last year considerable stocks were carried over; the present annual stock is very light.

The *Chronicle*, therefore, puts the figures of total consumption this year, 123,344 tons, or 30 per cent. over last year's consumption.

When to these figures is added the increase in the use of home-made manures, the *Chronicle* believes it is authorized to make the actual increase of fertilizers over the preceding year at less than thirty per cent.

No State reports a decrease in acreage except Tennessee. In Arkansas and South Carolina there is no change. The gains are: Georgia, three per cent.; North Carolina, five per cent.; Florida, two per cent.; Alabama, six per cent.; Mississippi, four per cent.; Louisiana, four per cent., and Texas nine per cent. The combined figures show an average increase of three and one half per cent., or 317,648 acres. If the weather and surroundings are similar to last year the crop will be 190 pounds per acre, or 3,983,000 bushels. The average product per acre for the last six seasons was 191 pounds. We give these figures of the *Chronicle* for what they are worth.

The condition of the crops are undoubtedly promising. Putting the year 1870-71 at 100, the *Chronicle* sets down the condition of the growing crop, on the first day of the present month, at 94.81.

HARD TIMES AND HOW TO OVERCOME THEM—A FOX BRIEF.

We read that a young man, recently a clerk in New Orleans, is now making a crop of cotton, largely by his own individual exertions, in the parish of Concordia, La. He has a partner, also an ex-clerk presumably, and they expect to gather 35 bushels this season.

Writing to a friend in the Crescent City, this industrious youth says: "I wish I had a lot of cotton to sell, but I have not enough to make me a profit."

And in the second place, we desire to see some measures taken to write a full and accurate history of the sojourn and fight.

Little is known in regard to the weather and surroundings, and we know of no better means of getting a reliable account than by getting the actors to tell, and appointing one of their number to write up the record, each actor giving him the details of his personal recollections.

North Carolina and the other States whose troops fought there cannot afford to let the history of that transaction be lost, or told by those who fought against us.

What says Colonel Lamb? What say his noble comrades, to our proposition? Let them meet by all means.

We want to see the reunion; we want to see some history written and some tangible end and reminder of that great event; we want to see something done to properly mark the resting place of the Commanding General, who died in Greenwood.

THE ILLINOIS BANDITS.

The town of LaCross, in Hancock county, was literally captured on Wednesday morning last by two noted desperadoes, who broke jail last week at Opanka, Henderson county. They came South, committing robberies both day and night. On their way they went through a jewelry store at Burlington, whence they went out on the Toledo, Peoria and Warsaw Railroad to Discor, robbing eight houses in succession. They had taken about \$2,000 in the vicinity of LaCross, at which place the Deputy Sheriff from Laramie attempted to arrest them, but the desperadoes seized the Sheriff and, after taking from him his arms and money, armed themselves with shot-guns and took possession of the town. They declared themselves the equals of the James brothers and Youngers, and after taking what plunder they could into the woods. About fifty men went in pursuit of them, but did not capture them. In the night they stole some horses and passed between Cartersville and the river, going South. A reward of five hundred dollars has been offered for their capture.

STATE TAXATION.

The short article from the *Baltimore Sun* is interesting, and will be read with profit by our people. We have rarely seen more valuable information compressed in so small a space, and in so convenient a shape for reference.

A table recently prepared from official statements for 1873 and 1874, gives the taxable valuations and the rates of taxation in the several States, as varying all the way from 10 cents on the \$100 in Connecticut to 82 1/2 cents on the \$100 in Louisiana. The rate is 50 cents in Alabama, Arkansas, California, Maine, Minnesota, Texas and Virginia; 40 cents in Georgia, Kansas, Ohio and Tennessee; 70 cents in Florida, 10 cents in Connecticut, 21 cents in Illinois, 15 cents in Maryland, 22 cents in Michigan, 81 1/2 cents in Nevada, 72 cents in New York, 15 cents in Oregon, 20 cents in Rhode Island and 70 cents in South Carolina.

The table of Charles Nordhoff in the *World* throw a good deal of light in a Northern direction on the condition of affairs in the States of the far South. The account he gives of affairs in Mississippi is particularly interesting. The mass of the white, he says, desire peace and quiet, but there is what the Congressional Committee called a wicked element, composed of the old Bowie knife and pistol men, whose bad language about "niggers" events, in Mr. Nordhoff's opinion, a most injurious influence on politics, in keeping the negroes massed together and making them afraid of the Democratic party. The Republican party contains a small fraction, headed by Senator Ames, Butler's son-in-law, but it is as feeble in numbers as in character, though it has heretofore had the Administration at its back, and the Republicans of the best class have nothing to do with it. The "Ames" problem, Mr. Nordhoff says, "have unscrupulously used the ignorance and greed of the negro to help them in their political schemes." They put into such offices as County Supervisor and Treasurer, as well as into the Legislature, negroes who were often "not only unable to read and write, but who were corrupt and corrupting influences," and he furnishes some shocking illustrations of negro incapacity and dishonesty. Well, this is not to doubt a very correct picture of the state of society there, and we know of no way to cure it until the picture is reversed and the proper element, the people who have the property, the intelligence and the true heritage of command, are placed in power. When the rule returns to the white race in those States, then we shall have peace, quietness and prosperity.

AN ex-Confederate officer has won a respite in the field of exploration. An explorer states that Col. Long, ex-Confederate officer attached to Col. Gordon's Central African expedition, who not long since discovered a third great lake at the headwaters of the Nile, has reached Egypt on his return from a journey to the country of the pyramids, discovered by Schweinfurth. The Ohio Democrats intend to work out these great ends, and we wish them God speed.

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It is not generally known that Gen. Sherman was, for a short time, a Confederate officer, and on his return to the field of exploration, he made discoveries of great interest to geographers and ethnologists. As his term of service has expired, and he proposes to return home, a new volume of African exploration, in the hope that he may be appointed to the command of the Legis.

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AN UNPUBLISHED ADDRESS OF JEFFERSON.

THE EARTHQUAKE IN NEW JERSEY.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

An Act to Call a Convention of the People of North Carolina.

Further Details of the Calamity—Towns and Cities Destroyed.

The Odd Trump.

This is a novel that bids fair from the freshness and audacity of its plot, from the gracefulness and vigor of its invention, from its variety and charm of incident, and from the originality of its style. It is a novel of the year.

The following is a summary of the plot: The boy mail steamer *Shipwreck*, which arrived at Aspinwall on the 4th instant, from San Francisco, brought with it a copy of the *Barbadoes* shipping List of May 29.

The steamer *Isabel*, which arrived yesterday, from the interior, neared our city with her flag at half-mast, indicating that she was the bearer of unpleasant news, and when she had come to a standstill, we were in suspense to learn what was to come. I recollect, for a moment, pictured the colossal magnitude of the awful calamity which had taken place. The information which has reached us to date is not only to us, but to all, but, upon reaching that, to begin at the beginning and read the fire, we might lose a single grace of the beautiful tale that had been written for us in the hours of parlour.

In the novel, set to us in a sensational novel, but it is in the heartily kind of sensation of the highest order, such as is seen in the best of Chas. Reade's stories. The heroes of which there are several, are all young, healthy, and adventurous, and meet with astonishing and difficult adventures, which they have the rare ability to bring to most successful terminations. The *Odd Trump* is, of course, the most prominent of these heroes, and the author has done well to bring him to the front.

He is a young man, a student of law, and a man of great energy and ability.

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WILMINGTON, N. C.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1875.

EX-PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS has been invited to deliver an address before the Bartolomew County (Indiana) Agricultural Society this Fall, and will accept.

There is a political doctor in Paris who says: "I prefer tyranny to license; for tyranny disgraces us with slavery, but license disgraces us with liberty itself."

NORTH CAROLINA RAILROAD DIVIDEND.

The dividend of six per cent. recently decided by the Directors of the North Carolina Railroad Company will be payable as follows: three per cent on 1st September, 1875, and three per cent on 1st March, 1876.

DUPLIN AND THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

The Democratic Conservative party of Duplin county, assembled at Kenansville on Saturday last, learn for the purpose of putting into the field candidates for the Constitutional Convention. They have nominated good men and true in the persons of Messrs. John N. Stallings, and William Parrish, who will reflect credit upon old Duplin and be ornaments to the Convention of the people of North Carolina. Well done, Duplin.

BUNKER HILL—WEST POINT.

Unless we yield to the conviction which once oppressed President Grant and surrendered our faith in human nature, we are compelled to believe that the era of a restored nationality has really begun. Lexington and Concord, and Charlotte, witnessed its first genuine expression and gave strong hope, but Bunker Hill and West Point leave no longer any reasonable doubt that the American people, North and South, are not only willing, but desirous to forget their recent bitter experiences of civil war, and to live hereafter in cordial friendship together. The reunions which have occurred, have forced the acknowledgment of this fact from the most despondent and the most malignant alike, and it is creditable to our civilization to perceive that there is a very general disposition to acknowledge it as the work of a super-intending Providence.

When a column of troops, wearing grey uniforms and known to be composed of men, many of whom fought through the war as Confederates, can march through the streets of Boston, exorted, not as pensioners, but as honored guests by gallant regiments in blue, and be cheered enthusiastically by the thronging thousands of New Englanders who lined the route—when a Virginia General named Lee can be selected as the one particular guest on whom attentions and courtesies are showered by these same New Englanders with a hearty, manly and unrestrained hospitality—when newspapers like the Boston *Advertiser*, can say with evident sincerity, that the South made all her great sacrifices for what she believed to be right, and can, in regard to the recollections of the war, utter the aspirations: "Bared forever, let them rest, and let the children never have cause to remember that their fathers quarreled at all"; When these and like occurrences are presented to our contemplation, who can doubt that "things are not as they were"? And when we see the spirit in which such evidences of a fraternal sentiment are met by representative Southern men, when Fitz Lee makes such graceful acknowledgment of them as he did at Boston, speaking, as everybody knew he did, the general sentiment of the Southern people, who is the man who will have the "courage" to snarl at it, or to with hold from such manly, magnanimous, and patriotic utterances, a hearty "amen"? And who will not sympathize in the following extract from the Boston *Post*?

"Our Southern military guests, whom it is a pleasure to welcome, will be cordially entertained for the last few days, will all have left us by to-night, bearing with them, however, the best wishes of all with whom they have come in contact in this city. The relations of cordial friendship between us have been notably strengthened by the ceremonies of the week. Whether re-approval attentions have been formal or informal, they have all been hearty and sincere, and that was the main thing. The presentation of a flag to the "Fifth" and the hearty welcome of those whose property was un-mentioned, and whose property was un-doubted. The floral tribute laid by this same regiment upon a monument to Major General Sedgwick, was an evidence of so much cordiality and hospitality. There have been double friendships formed; friendships of men, and as the separation of organizations, and as the separation of men, place after the celebration of a great event of national and common interest, there will an army of missionaries go forth, though arrayed in the habiliments of war, yet with the wings of peace and goodwill in their bosoms and hearts. May they spread this sentiment until it shall be the animating principle of American government as now is of American society."

We are not, we believe, in the habit of indulging much in "gush," because, perhaps, we are not so young and enthusiastic as we once were; but sometimes when we reflect upon these Centennial celebrations, and read the accounts which our exchanges bring us of the meetings between the soldiers of the two armies, we are not ashamed to confess to a feeling of softness about the heart, after which we always feel better.

Among the other recent events of the character of which we speak was the meeting of the Alumni of West Point, on the 17th inst., the same day as the Bunker Hill celebration. There were assembled on that day at least a half dozen of Generals who had served in each army during the war, Longstreet, Tilghman, McLean, Anderson and Fremont, among Confederates, and Hooker, Gilmore, Casey, Humphries, and Barnard, among Federals, were there. Prof. Davies, the oldest living graduate of West

Point, delivered the address, which was very appropriately, about the Bunker Hill battle, of which the day was the anniversary. Among many other passages in his speech, of like character, were given the following in regard to the conflicts of the past about which he spoke (as he ought to have done) as if they were forever past.

View them together, on this spot and on this anniversary, we are united. We all agree that the allegiance of soldiers to their country is among the surest guards of the nation and the crowning glory of the military profession.

It is an unusual coincidence in that instance which enable us to meet here to-day. It is because the nation shares that confidence that it will approve our doings and applaud our acts. Since the close of the war the tendency to union and fraternity has grown steadily. The two mothers, whose sons had been reared at the same school, and who had fallen on different sides in the same battle, is a true exponent of the national sentiment.

At a national cemetery, each with a wreath of flowers moistened with the tears of maternal love. They recognized each other, and their voices feebly uttered what their hearts deeply felt. "Since in each bosom death let them not be separated," and the two wreaths were laid together on friendly graves.

So spread her mantle over the graves of the dead, and abide forever in the land of the living. This is the true sentiment of President Lincoln.

"With malice toward none, and with charity for all," will no longer slumber in the records of history or be silent on the monuments where it is now engraved; but will be transferred to the national heart, and plead earnestly for reconciliation and peace.

Altogether this meeting of the Alumni of West Point was a very enjoyable and significant affair. It is true that among these graduates who took opposite sides in the war there has never been that kind of bitter feeling which seemed to exist among others, generally speaking, but still there had been enough estrangement to make it sometimes unpleasant. We therefore congratulate the graduates of the institution on this meeting of the Alumni, and hope it may be the harbinger of a better day coming.

We are glad to see that all our Southern exchanges seem to appreciate properly the events of which we speak, and have commented on them in the same spirit, and we feel more encouraged by such exhibitions of a truly patriotic, national, generous and forgiving sentiments, than we can express. May God save us from such expressions in the future as we have had in the past, and preserve the United States so long as it shall remain a free, great and just republic!

JAMES WOOD DAVIDSON, in a letter to the New York *World*, again answers the question, "who burned Columbia?" He proves by Sherman and Sherman's own witnesses that it was not burned by General Hampton, and that it was burned by Sherman's own soldiers. He makes many points and corroborates them all by testimony.

Titus 1. That General Sherman desired the destruction of Columbia. 2. That General Sherman knew that his soldiers desired the same thing. 3. That General Sherman believed if the Fifteenth Army corps were quartered in that city they would destroy it. 3. That General Sherman thus desired, that knowing and thus believing, did quarter the Fifteenth Army corps in Columbia. And so on to the end of the chapter. The Fifteenth corps took possession at 10 o'clock in the morning; the fire broke out at a hundred places at once at 8 o'clock in the evening. Adjutant S. H. M. Byers, in a pamphlet entitled "What I Saw in Dixie; or Six Months in Rebel Prisons," says: "The boys, too, were spreading the conflagration by firing the city in a hundred places;" and Whitlow Ried, in his "Ohio in the War," says: "It was the most monstrous barbarity of the barbarous march."

A PROPOSITION has been made by Theo. Hamilton, of Baltimore, and a member of Longstreet's old corps, to Gen. Joe E. Johnston, as president of the Survivor's Association, says the Savannah *News*, which is of interest to our readers generally. The proposition of Mr. Hamilton is to give thirty-five dramatic performances, by a company composed of the highest order of talent, to be selected in New York, six nights in each of the cities of Savannah, Augusta, Atlanta, Macon and Columbus. A certain number of tickets are to be sold, at one admittance to a performance, a fine admittance at a price of \$10.00. The plan was suggested to Mr. Hamilton by a gentleman of Macon as an excellent method by which funds could be raised for the children and widows of Confederate soldiers. A general meeting of the subordinate organizations of the "Survivors" Association of Confederate Soldiers and Sailors" will be held in Macon during the State fair, when, it is probable, the details of the proposition will be accepted and the plan perfected.

CAPTAIN J. B. EADS, now engaged in getting out one of the months of the Mississippi, has written to the St. Louis Merchants' Exchange, recommending the formation of a "Mississippi Valley and Brazil Steamship Company," in anticipation of the early improvement of Mississippi navigation. He gives it as his opinion that the port of New Orleans will be an important outlet to Brazil.

The presentation of a flag to the "Fifth" and the "Palmetto" was ungrudgingly given whose property was un-mentioned, and whose property was un-doubted. The floral tribute laid by this same regiment upon a monument to the "Fifth" was ungrudgingly given.

The character and reputation of the gentlemen chosen by the Trustees to constitute the Faculty of the University under its new auspices a strong guarantee that their efforts will be crowned with success. The old Professors were selected to wit: Charles Phillips, John Kimberley and De Nier Hooper. The experience of these gentlemen in the successful conduct of the University in days gone by, leaves no room to apprehend failure in the future for want of wise counsel.

The Rev. A. W. Mangum, now Professor Mangum, is in the prime of life, and the ownership of large capital investment by it factory operations would be an assurance to other stockholders that it would be intelligently and economically managed.

The establishment of one such mill by people of slender means, and by payments so easily made, would surely lead to the establishment of other.

The idea that only men of large capital can build and own cotton factories is retarding their establishment in the South. Let it be shown that the monthly savings of hard-working people will soon be accepted by the public.

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